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Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 MCT-01
/092 W
----------082760 261606Z /40
P 261527Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8191
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SF, WA
SUBJECT: FONMIN BOTHA VISITS SWA/NAMIBIA

REF: (A) PRETORIA 3609, (B) PRETORIA 3501,

1. S.A. FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTEDLY VISITED SWA/NAMIBIA JULY 25 TO INVESTIGATE BORDER CONDITIONS AND ANGOLAN ALLEGATIONS THAT SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES HAD CAPTURED THE ANGOLAN BORDER TOWN OF CUANGAR AND SHOT DOWN A SOVIET-MADE ANGOLAN PLANE. AFTER HIS VISIT BOTHA SAID ON SABC THAT HE HAD INTERVIEWED REFUGEES FROM CUANGAR WHO CONFIRMED THAT UNITA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR BOTH
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THE ATTACK ON THE CITY JULY 20 AND THE SHOOTING DOWN OF A SOVIET AN-26 JULY 12. HE SAID HE HAD ALSO TALKED TO A NUMBER OF NAMIBIANS AND SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY LEADERS, AND WAS NOW CONVINCED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS IMPLICATED IN NEITHER EVENT. HE SAID HIS INVITATION TO SYG WALDHEIM TO COME TO NAMIBIA TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH ANGOLAN REFUGEES STILL STOOD.

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THIS WAS, HE SAID, THE ONLY WAY THE WEST COULD ESTABLISH HOW MATTERS REALLY STOOD.

2. DESCRIBING CONDITIONS IN ANGOLA AS SYMPTOMATIC OF EVENTS ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA, BOTHA PREDICTED A FURTHER DETERIORATION IN ANGOLA UNLESS "LEADERS IN AFRICA TOOK FIRM ACTION NOW TO CHECK BIG-POWER INTERVENTION."

3. COMMENT: PRESUMABLY THE SAG IS PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO REFUTE ANGOLA'S CHARGES OF AGRESSION AT A TIME WHEN NEGOTIATIONS OVER NAMIBIA ARE ENTERING A DELICATE PHASE. BOTHA'S TRIP WAS APPARENTLY DESIGNED TO DRAMATIZE SOUTH AFRICA'S INNOCENCE IN THESE INCIDENTS.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, INVESTIGATIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770718/aaaaapid.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Subject: FONMIN BOTHA VISITS SWA/NAMIBIA
TAGS: PINT, OVIP, PBOR, SF, WA, (BOTHA, PIK)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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